

providing the capability to utilize said key for gaining access to said data.

C1  
cont 7. (Amended) The method recited in claim 6 wherein said encryption key is formed from a unique set of passwords selected from the character set, and utilizes a grid forming a matrix of squares.

C2 20. (Amended) The system as recited in claim 12 wherein at least seven of the ten characters are consonants.

27. (Amended) A method for securing data comprising the steps of:

C3 creating a graphical image; and

masking said data using said graphical image as key, wherein the graphical image is formed from typographical symbols.

~~83.~~ 43. (Amended) A method for accessing an apparatus using a password

C4 comprising the steps of:

masking said password in a graphical image;

displaying the graphical image; and

~~89.~~ re-constructing said password using said graphical image and input from a user.

~~49.~~ (Amended) A secure device for allowing access using a password, the device comprising:

C5 means for masking said password in a graphical image;

means for displaying said graphical image; and

means for accepting the re-construction of said password using the graphical image and

input from a user.